

**What is claimed is:**

1. A merchandise order receiving system wherein a plurality of communication terminals order merchandise through a network, the system comprising:

5           an order controlling apparatus connected with said plural communication terminals through the network, said order controlling apparatus receiving an order of the merchandise from said plural communication terminals;

10           an image storing apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through another network different from the aforesaid network, said image storing apparatus storing character information and/or image information as image data;

15           a charging and settlement apparatus connected with said plural communication terminal through the network, said charging and settlement apparatus performing charging and settlement of the ordered merchandise;

20           an order receiving apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said order receiving apparatus receiving an order of shipping of the merchandise through the another network, the shipping being ordered to said order controlling apparatus by said communication terminals through the network, according to the charging and settlement performed by said charging and settlement apparatus;

25           a print out apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said print out apparatus printing the image data supplied from said image storing apparatus through the another network in form of a hologram or holographic stereogram as printed matter;

30           a merchandise assembling apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said merchandise assembling apparatus incorporating the printed matter in the merchandise to assemble an assembled merchandise as final shipping goods; and

35           a shipping terminal connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said shipping terminal performing shipping processing of the assembled merchandise

assembled by said merchandise assembling apparatus, wherein:

said plural communication terminals respectively designate a desired character and/or a desired image at a time of an order of the merchandise,

5           the image data corresponding to the character and/or the image, both being designated by each of said plural communication terminals, are supplied to said print out apparatus from said image storing apparatus through the another network, and

10           said print out apparatus prints the supplied image data to output the printed matter.

2. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 1, wherein said communication terminals generate order data indicating contents of orders, and supply the order data to said order controlling apparatus through the network.

3. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 2, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates information concerning reception of an order, the information indicating contents of the order, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said order controlling apparatus stores the information of the reception of the order generated correspondingly to a plurality of orders.

4. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 2, wherein said communication terminals generate payment information, the payment information being information concerning a payment method necessary for disbursing of a charge as the order data to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

5. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 4, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus performs the charging and the settlement of the ordered merchandise on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network.

6. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 5, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus generates information concerning charging and settlement, the information indicating contents of charging processing, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said charging and settlement apparatus stores the information concerning the charging and the settlement, generated correspondingly to a plurality of charging processing, as a database.

7. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 5, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates order receiving data indicating contents of an order to supply the order receiving data to said order receiving apparatus through the another network when said charging and settlement apparatus completes charging processing.

8. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 7, wherein said order receiving apparatus generates information concerning order receiving and indicating contents of the order receiving on a basis of the order receiving data supplied from said order controlling apparatus through the another network, and said order receiving apparatus stores the information concerning the order receiving generated correspondingly to a plurality of order receiving as a database.

9. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 1, wherein said image storing apparatus generates information concerning the image data correspondingly to the stored image data, the information indicating contents of the image data, and said image storing apparatus stores the information that concerns the image data and is generated correspondingly to a plurality of image data as a database.

10. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 1, said system further comprising:

an image processing apparatus for performing prescribed processing to image data, said image processing apparatus performing the prescribed processing to the image data supplied from said image storing apparatus through the another network, said image processing

apparatus generating a preview image for performing preview display of an image similar to a reproduced image of a hologram or holographic stereogram incorporated in the merchandise as the printed matter.

5           11. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 10, wherein said communication terminals display the preview image supplied from said image processing apparatus through the network on a display section, and said communication terminals generate payment information, that being information concerning a payment method  
10 necessary for payment of a charge, as a part of the order data in response to a result of displaying the preview image to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

15           12. A method for receiving an order for merchandise, said method comprising the steps of:

          accepting an order of a merchandise from one of a plurality of communication terminals through a network, and a designation of a desired character and/or a desired image;

          receiving an order of the merchandise from said plural  
20 communication terminals with an order controlling apparatus connected with said plural communication terminals through the network;

          performing charging and settlement of the ordered merchandise with a charging and settlement apparatus connected with the plural communication terminals through the network;

25           receiving an order of delivery of the merchandise ordered by said communication terminals to said order controlling apparatus through the network with an order receiving apparatus, connected with said order controlling apparatus through another network different from the network, according to the charging and the settlement performed by said  
30 charging and settlement apparatus;

          supplying image data, which correspond to the character and/or the image designated by each of said plural communication terminals in character information and/or image information stored as image data in an image storing apparatus connected with said order controlling  
35 apparatus through the another network, to a print out apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another

network, and printing the image data in form of a hologram or holographic stereogram as printed matter with said print out apparatus;

incorporating the printed matter to the merchandise to assemble an assembled merchandise as final shipping goods by a merchandise assembling apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network; and

performing shipping processing of the assembled merchandise assembled by said merchandise assembling apparatus with a shipping terminal connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network.

13. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 12, wherein said communication terminals generate order data indicating contents of orders, and supply the order data to said order controlling apparatus through the network.

14. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 13, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates information concerning reception of an order, the information indicating contents of the order, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said order controlling apparatus stores the information of the reception of the order generated correspondingly to a plurality of orders.

15. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 13, wherein said communication terminals generate payment information being information concerning a payment method necessary for disbursing of a charge as the order data to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

16. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 15, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus performs the charging and the settlement of the ordered merchandise on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network.

17. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 16, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus generates information concerning charging and settlement, the information indicating contents of charging processing, on a basis of the order data  
5 supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said charging and settlement apparatus stores the information concerning the charging and the settlement, generated correspondingly to a plurality of charging processing, as a database.

10 18. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 16, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates order receiving data indicating contents of an order to supply the order receiving data to said order receiving apparatus through the another network when said charging and settlement apparatus complete charging  
15 processing.

19. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 18, wherein said order receiving apparatus generates information concerning order receiving indicating contents of the order receiving on  
20 a basis of the order receiving data supplied from said order controlling apparatus through the another network, and said order receiving apparatus stores the information concerning the order generated correspondingly to a plurality of order received as a database.

20. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 12, wherein said image storing apparatus generates information concerning the image data correspondingly to the stored image data, the information indicating contents of the image data, and said image storing  
25 apparatus stores the information that concerns the image data and is generated correspondingly to a plurality of image data as a database.  
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21. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 12, said method further comprising the step of:

performing prescribed processing of image data supplied from  
35 said image storing apparatus through the another network with an image processing apparatus for performing the prescribed processing of the

image data to generate a preview image for performing preview display of an image similar to a reproduced image of a hologram or holographic stereogram incorporated in the merchandise as the printed matter.

5           22. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 21, wherein said communication terminals display the preview image supplied from said image processing apparatus through the network on a display section, and said communication terminals generate payment information, being information concerning a payment method  
10 necessary for payment of a charge, as order data according to a result of the preview image to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

15           23. A merchandise order receiving system wherein a plurality of communication terminals order merchandise through a network, the system comprising:

an order controlling apparatus connected with said plural communication terminals through the network, said order controlling apparatus receiving an order of the merchandise demanded by each of  
20 said plural communication terminals;

an image storing apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through another network different from the aforesaid network, said image storing apparatus storing character information and/or image information as image data;

25 a charging and settlement apparatus connected with said plural communication terminal through the network, said charging and settlement apparatus performing charging and settlement of the ordered merchandise;

30 an order receiving apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said order receiving apparatus receiving an order of delivery of the merchandise through the another network, the delivery being ordered to said order controlling apparatus by said communication terminals through the network, according to the charging and settlement performed by said charging and  
35 settlement apparatus;

a print out apparatus connected with said order controlling

apparatus through the another network, said print out apparatus printing the image data supplied from said image storing apparatus through the another network in form of a hologram or holographic stereogram as printed matter;

5           a merchandise inventory apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said merchandise inventory apparatus performing inventory control of the merchandise to prepare the merchandise as final shipping goods; and

10           a shipping terminal connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, said shipping terminal performing shipping processing for shipping the merchandise prepared by said merchandise inventory apparatus and the printed matter printed by the print out apparatus together with each other or separately from each other, wherein:

15           said plural communication terminals severally designate a desired character and/or a desired image at a time of an order of the merchandise, and

20           the image data corresponding to the character and/or the image, both being designated by each of said plural communication terminals, are supplied to said print out apparatus from said image storing apparatus through the another network, and said print out apparatus prints the supplied image data to output the printed matter.

24. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim  
25 23, wherein said communication terminals generates order data indicating contents of orders, and supply the order data to said order controlling apparatus through the network.

25. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim  
30 24, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates information concerning reception of an order, the information indicating contents of the order, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said order controlling apparatus stores the information of the reception of the order generated  
35 correspondingly to a plurality of orders.



26. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 24, wherein said communication terminals generate payment information being information concerning a payment method necessary for disbursing of a charge as the order data to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

27. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 26, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus performs the charging and the settlement of the ordered merchandise on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network.

28. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 27, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus generates information concerning charging and settlement, the information indicating contents of charging processing, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said charging and settlement apparatus stores the information concerning the charging and the settlement, generated correspondingly to a plurality of charging processing, as a database.

29. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 27, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates order receiving data indicating contents of an order to supply the order receiving data to said order receiving apparatus through the another network when said charging and settlement apparatus completes charging processing.

30. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 29, wherein said order receiving apparatus generates information concerning order receiving and indicating contents of the order receiving on a basis of the order receiving data supplied from said order controlling apparatus through the another network, and said order receiving apparatus stores the information concerning the order receiving as a database, the information being generated correspondingly to a plurality of order receiving.

31. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 23, wherein said image storing apparatus generates information concerning the image data correspondingly to the stored image data, the information indicating contents of the image data, and said image storing  
5 apparatus stores the information that concerns the image data and is generated correspondingly to a plurality of image data as a database.

32. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 23, said system further comprising:

10 an image processing apparatus for performing prescribed processing to image data, said image processing apparatus performing the prescribed processing to the image data supplied from said image storing apparatus through the another network, said image processing apparatus generating a preview image for performing preview display of  
15 an image similar to a reproduced image of a hologram or holographic stereogram to be delivered together with or separately from the merchandise as the printed matter.

33. The merchandise order receiving system according to claim 20 32, wherein said communication terminals display the preview image supplied from said image processing apparatus through the network on a display section, and said communication terminals generate payment information, being information concerning a payment method necessary for payment of a charge, as order data according to a result of the  
25 preview image to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

34. A method for receiving an order for merchandise, said method comprising the steps of:

30 accepting an order of a merchandise from one of a plurality of communication terminals through a network, and a designation of a desired character and/or a desired image;

receiving an order of the merchandise demanded by each of said plural communication terminals with an order controlling apparatus  
35 connected with said plural communication terminals through the network;

performing charging and settlement of the ordered merchandise with a charging and settlement apparatus connected with the plural communication terminals through the network;

receiving an order of delivery of the merchandise ordered by said communication terminals to said order controlling apparatus through the network with an order receiving apparatus, connected with said order controlling apparatus through another network different from the network, according to the charging and the settlement performed by said charging and settlement apparatus;

supplying image data, which correspond to the character and/or the image designated by each of said plural communication terminals in character information and/or image information stored as image data in an image storing apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, to a print out apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network, and printing the image data in form of a hologram or holographic stereogram as printed matter with said print out apparatus;

preparing the merchandise as final shipping goods in merchandise under inventory control by a merchandise inventory apparatus connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network; and

performing shipping processing for shipping the merchandise prepared by said merchandise inventory apparatus and the printed matter printed by said print out apparatus together with each other or separately from each other with a shipping terminal connected with said order controlling apparatus through the another network.

35. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 34, wherein said communication terminals generates order data indicating contents of orders, and supply the order data to said order controlling apparatus through the network.

36. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 35, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates information concerning reception of an order, the information indicating contents of the order, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication

terminals through the network, and said order controlling apparatus stores the information of the reception of the order generated correspondingly to a plurality of orders.

5           37. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 35, wherein said communication terminals generate payment information being information concerning a payment method necessary for disbursing of a charge as the order data to supply the order data to said charging and settlement apparatus through the network.

10           38. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 37, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus performs the charging and the settlement of the ordered merchandise on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the  
15 network.

20           39. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 38, wherein said charging and settlement apparatus generates information concerning charging and settlement, the information indicating contents of charging processing, on a basis of the order data supplied from said communication terminals through the network, and said charging and settlement apparatus stores the information concerning the charging and the settlement, generated correspondingly to a plurality of charging processing, as a database.

25           40. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 38, wherein said order controlling apparatus generates order receiving data indicating contents of an order to supply the order receiving data to said order receiving apparatus through the another  
30 network when said charging and settlement apparatus completes charging processing.

35           41. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 40, wherein said order receiving apparatus generates information concerning order receiving and indicating contents of the order receiving on a basis of the order receiving data supplied from said order

controlling apparatus through the another network, and said order receiving apparatus stores the information concerning the order receiving as a database, the information being generated correspondingly to a plurality of order receiving.

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42. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 34, wherein said image storing apparatus generates information concerning the image data correspondingly to the stored image data, the information indicating contents of the image data, and said image storing  
10 apparatus stores the information that concerns the image data and is generated correspondingly to a plurality of image data as a database.

43. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 34, said method further comprising the step of:

15 performing prescribed processing of image data supplied from said image storing apparatus through the another network with an image processing apparatus for performing the prescribed processing of the image data to generate a preview image for performing preview display of an image similar to a reproduced image of a hologram or holographic  
20 stereogram to be forwarded together with or separately from the merchandise as the printed matter.

44. The merchandise order receiving method according to claim 43, wherein said communication terminals display the preview  
25 image supplied from said image processing apparatus through the network on a display section, and said communication terminals generate payment information, being information concerning a payment method necessary for payment of a charge, as order data according to a result of the preview image to supply the order data to said charging and  
30 settlement apparatus through the network.